### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:

CHERYL ANN JORDAN : CASE NO. 17-18499 (REF)

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Debtor : CHAPTER 7

### DEBTOR'S MOTION TO AVOID JUDICIAL LIEN OF DISCOVER BANK PURSUANT TO SECTION 522(F)

The motion of the Debtor, Cheryl Ann Jordan, through her counsel, Stephen J. Palopoli III, Esquire, respectfully represents:

- 1. The above-captioned case was commenced by the filing of a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 7 of Title 11 of the United States Code ("Bankruptcy Code") on December 19, 2017 ("Filing Date").
- 2. This motion is brought pursuant to Bankruptcy Code §522(f) and Bankruptcy Rule 4003(b) and 9014.
- 3. This court has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1334 and 28 U.S.C. §157(b)(2)(0). This is a core proceeding.
- 4. The respondent is Discover Bank ("Discover") with a place of business at 6500 New Albany Road, New Albany, OH 43054.
- 5. As of the Filing Date, the Debtor, Cheryl Ann Jordan was the owner of certain real property located at 417 Vine Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, Northampton County, Document I.D. No. P6SE1A 25 10 (the "Real Property") which was, and remains the Debtor's principal residence.

- 6. On or about June 15, 2015, Discover Bank entered judgment against the Debtor, Cheryl Ann Jordan in the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania at docket no. C 48 CV-2015-2845 in the sum of \$14,000.29 (together with all additional accrued interest and costs to the Filing Date) (the "Discover Judgment").
  - 7. The fair market value of the Real Property as of the Filing Date was \$52,000.00.
- 8. As of the Filing Date, the Real Property was subject to the following liens and encumbrances:
- a. Mortgage in favor of Bank of America obtained in June 15, 2008 and recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds, Northampton County and having an approximate outstanding balance on the Filing Date of \$15,090.00;
- b. Judgment in favor of Cavalry SPV ILLC against the Debtor, Cheryl Ann Jordan, in the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania docket no. CV 2017 05400 on August 24, 2017 in the sum of 14,237.20;
- c. Judgment in favor of Citibank, N.A. against the Debtor, Cheryl Ann Jordan, in the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania at docket no. CV-2014-11635 in the sum of \$11,796.33;
- d. Judgment in favor of TD Bank, as successor in Interest to Target National Bank against the Debtor, Cheryl Ann Jordan, in the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania at docket no. C48-CV-2014-10806 in the sum of \$4,600.00; and
  - e. The Discover Judgment.
- 9. If the Real Property was not encumbered by any liens, the Debtor could have claimed an exemption in the Debtor's interest in the Real Property in the sum of \$23,675.00 pursuant to Section 522(d)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code.

- The Discover Judgment created a judicial lien upon the Debtor's interest in the 10. Real Property which impairs an exemption to which the Debtors are entitled in the Real Property.
- Section 522(f) of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. §522(f) permits a debtor to 11. avoid the fixing of a judicial lien on an interest of the debtor in property to the extent that such lien impairs an exemption to which the Debtor would have been entitled under the Bankruptcy Code.
- For the purposes of Section 522(f), a lien shall be considered to impair an 12. exemption to the extent that the sum of (a) the lien, (b) all other liens on the property; and (c) the amount of the exemption that the debtor could claim if there were no liens on the property, exceeds the value that the Debtor's interest in the property would have in the absence of any liens.
- The sum of the lien of the Discover Judgment (\$14,000.29), all other liens on the 13. Real Property (\$45,723.53) and the Debtor's available exemption (\$23,675.00) exceeds the value of the Debtor's interest in the Real Property (\$52,000.) by \$31,398.82 and, therefore, the lien of the Discover Judgment should be avoided in its entirety.

WHEREFORE, the Debtor moves this Honorable Court to enter an order avoiding the lien of the Discover Bank Judgment upon the Real Property, and for such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: April 17, 2018

Stephen J. Palopolí, III, Esquire

Attorney for Debtors

1125 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Suite 205

Allentown, PA 18103 Attorney ID 53647

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#### ORDER

Upon Debtor's Motion to Avoid Judicial Lien (the "Motion") entered in the case of Discover Bank vs. Cheryl Ann Jordan in the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County, Pennsylvania, docket no. C 48 CV-2015-2845 on June 15, 2015 in the sum of \$14,000.29 (the "Judicial Lien") upon Debtor's exempt real property located at 417 Vine Street, Bethlehem, PA 18015 bearing PIN No. P6SE1A 25 10 (the "Real Property"), and upon Debtor having asserted that the alleged lien is subject to avoidance pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §522(f)(1), and upon debtor having certified that adequate notice of the Motion was sent to the lienholder and that no answer or other response to the Motion has not been filed.

It is ORDERED that the Motion is granted by default and the above Judicial Lien of Discover Bank, if any, upon Debtor's Real Property is avoided, cancelled and of no further effect.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, pursuant to section 349(b)(1)(B), 11 U.S.C. §349(b)(1)(B) that dismissal of this case, prior to the entry of a discharge order, reinstates any lien voided under Section 522.

BY THE COURT:

Richard E. Fehling, United States Bankruptcy Judge

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Betsy Lavelle, Paralegal to Stephen J. Palopoli III, Esquire hereby certify that a true and correct copy of Debtor's Motion To Avoid Judicial Lien of Discover Bank., Proposed Order and Notice of Hearing to Consider Motion was served via first class mail or ECF Filing on April 17, 2018 to the following:

United States Trustee By ECF filing

Chapter 7 Trustee Michael H. Kaliner, Esquire By ECF filing

Attorney for Bank of America, N.A. Kevin G. McDonald By ECF filing

Attorney for Discover Bank Michael J. Dougherty, Esq. Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co. 325 Chestnut St., Suite 501 Philadelphia, PA 19106-2614

Cheryl Ann Jordan 417 Vine Street Bethlehem, PA 18064

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Notice of Hearing to Consider Motion only sent to the following:

Attorney for Cavalry SPV I, LLC David J. Apothaker, Esquire 520 Fellowship Rd., Suite C306 P.O. Box 5496 Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054-5496

Attorney for Citibank, N.A. Blatt, Hasenmiller, Leibsker & Moore, LLC 1835 Market St., Suite 501 Philadelphia, PA 19103

Attorney for TD Bank USA, N.A. as Successor In Interest To Target National Bank Gregg L. Morris, Esquire 213 E. Main Street Carnegie, PA 15106

April 17, 2018

Betsy Lavelle